

**Sil Ganzó**

ourBRIDGE for KIDS

Executive Director

sil@joinourBRIDGE.org

980-272-6022



Sil Ganzó is the founder and Executive Director of ourBRIDGE for KIDS. Sil moved to Charlotte, NC in 2003 from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Sil became involved with refugee and immigrant families in 2010 and recognized the lack of educational and socio-emotional support for newly-arrived children. She was inspired to create ourBRIDGE, a safe, nurturing, and respectful environment where refugee and immigrant children can learn English and be encouraged to achieve academic excellence and cultural pride, and where their families would feel welcome and embraced as they strive to start their lives anew in the United States.

As a strong advocate for love, education, respect, and diversity among cultures and people, Sil has received several accolades for her work throughout the years including Charlotte Magazines "2018 Charlottean of the Year" and was recognized as a "Social Interruptor" by Community Building Initiative in 2018. ourBRIDGE was the recipient of Charlotte Magazine's "2014 Charlottean of the Year". Both Sil and ourBRIDGE have been widely recognized locally and nationally, with articles published by The Atlantic, NBC News, in 2017 Sil was honored to attend the State of the Union address with Congresswoman Alma Adams as her guest. Most recently ourBRIDGE was invited by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to present on how to ensure English Language Learners equal access to STEM. Sil continues to work as Executive Director of ourBRIDGE for KIDS, driven by her vision to make Charlotte a more equitable city for immigrants and refugee families.